

ABSTRACT

Hydrocarbons are recovered from a subterranean reservoir by drilling an injection well bore having an outlet in the reservoir and drilling a production well bore spaced apart from the injection well bore and having an inlet in the reservoir. A permeable zone having a first patterned web of channels radiating outwardly from the outlet of the injection well and connecting to a second patterned web of channels radiating outwardly from the inlet of the production well is formed in the reservoir. Heated fluid is passed from the outlet into the permeable zone to mobilize hydrocarbons in the subterranean reservoir so that the mobilized hydrocarbons flow toward the inlet. The permeable zone fans out from the wells to cover an extended area of the reservoir to enhance hydrocarbon recovery by heating hydrocarbons from an expanded area of a reservoir and gravity draining the hydrocarbons.